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Colombia

Grain and Feed

Milled Rice Import Quota from Ecuador

2002

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Report Highlights:

The Governments of Colombia and Ecuador reached an agreement to import additional 60,000 tons of milled rice between April 1 and June 15, 2002.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bogota [CO1], CO

The Governments of Colombia and Ecuador reached an agreement to import 60,000 tons of milled rice between April 1 and June 15, 2002. The agreement was reflected in a document signed by the Vice-Ministers of Agriculture of both countries on January 22, 2002. The quantity is in addition to the 10,000 tons of milled rice authorized in early January 2002 to replenish rice stocks after the mid-year harvest (June-August) and before the beginning of the late year harvest (December-February). This agreement was required by regulations of the Andean Community (Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and Colombia), in order to extend the Colombian safe-guard clause on rice from Andean Community countries until November 2002. The agreement stipulated that 60,000 tons of Ecuadorian milled rice will be unloaded at the ports of Buenaventura and Barranquilla between April 1 and June 15, 2002. No rice will be transported by trucks from Ecuador to Colombia. This requirement is established to better control the quantities imported. The Government of Colombia will approve import permits and licenses for the Ecuadorian rice between March 15 and May 31, 2002. The imported 60,000 tons will be sold through the Colombian and Ecuadorian Commodities Exchanges. In order to support prices to Colombian rice growers during the mid-year harvest, only 14,000 tons will be admitted during the first half of June, 2002.

By resolution 001 of January 8, 2002 the GOC had established an importation of 18,000 tons of paddy rice from Ecuador (equivalent to 10,000 tons of milled rice). This quantity can be delivered to the Colombian market by truck. The signed agreement also stipulates that any rice shortage will be met with Andean countries supplies.

Trade sources mentioned that the total quantity of 70,000 tons of milled rice will be enough to meet the Colombian market needs if the demand remains stable and there is no adverse effect of climatic phenomena.